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C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 000256

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/31/2019

TAGS: PREL ICJ KV CA

SUBJECT: NO ICJ BRIEF FROM CANADA ON KOSOVO

REF: STATE 29385

Classified By: PolMinCouns Scott Bellard, reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

¶1. (C) The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Director General for Europe Robert Hage confirmed to PolMinCouns on March 31 that Canada had decided against filing a brief with the International Court of Justice in support of Kosovo (reftel). He commented that lingering sensitivities over the status of Quebec had been the primary factor behind the government's wish to avoid "drawing attention" again to this issue, and that Canada did not believe that the ICJ had a legitimate role to play on this "political decision" in any event.

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